

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Tempe City Charter authorizes the declaration of an emergency affecting the life, health, property or the public peace of the City of Tempe pursuant to Section 1.04;

WHEREAS, Arizona law authorizes the Mayor of the City of Tempe, Arizona, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the City of Tempe is or may be affected by a public calamity under A.R.S. § 26-311, in addition to powers granted by other provisions of law or the Charter; and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2020, a 102-car freight train owned and operated by Union Pacific Railroad derailed and caught fire while crossing the Salt River Union Pacific Bridge, which crosses Tempe Town Lake. The bridge partially collapsed, resulting in damage, destruction in the City of Tempe; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the derailment, certain chemicals, which may be hazardous to the public health, carried on the Union Pacific Railroad freight train leaked into a dry storm drain and are considered flammable, which dissemination of chemicals will require environmental containment and remediation; and,

WHEREAS, such derailment, fire, chemical leak and other related adverse effects constitute an immediate threat to life, public health, safety, welfare, property, and economic viability, the City of Tempe has taken measures to protect the health and safety of our residents, community and employees, from the rapidly evolving threat to public health, safety and welfare; and,

WHEREAS, such derailment, fire, chemical leak and other related effects have caused damage to the city's roadway and other public infrastructure, and caused disruption, outages, damage and other adverse effects to multiple utility providers, easement holders, cable and telecommunications providers, and multiple federal, state and local jurisdictions and agencies. The loss of the bridge will also affect local and interstate commerce that will all suffer substantial economic damages. The fire and chemical leak may result in potential health issues to the public, the effects of which are not yet known.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND RESOLVED THAT DUE TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY THAT EXISTS IN THE CITY OF TEMPE, ARIZONA FROM THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD DERAILMENT AND BRIDGE COLLAPSE ON JULY 29, 2020, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED WITHIN THE CITY OF TEMPE:



PROCLAMATION

Effective July 29, 2020, be it resolved that a state of emergency exists in the City of Tempe, Arizona, County of Maricopa and that such local emergency causes or threatens to cause loss of or jeopardizes life or property. As a result, Mayor Corey D. Woods shall assume control over and govern city government and all of its branches and shall be responsible for the suppression of disorders and the restoration of normal peaceful conditions, and is authorized by the Tempe City Charter to rule by proclamation.

The Mayor authorizes the City Manager or designee(s) of the City of Tempe to undertake Preliminary Damage Assessments, substantiate any assistance requests, and coordinate assistance and recovery efforts with the County of Maricopa, the State of Arizona, the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, and all other entities and jurisdictions, as deemed necessary or useful. This authorization includes but is not limited to the requests for, acceptance of and disbursement of funds, and in-kind materials and services.

This proclamation shall remain in place until further until notice of repeal or revision by the Mayor.

PROCLAIMED at 3:23 p.m. this 31 day of July 2020.



Corey D. Woods, Mayor

ATTEST:



Carla R. Reece, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Judith R. Baumann, City Attorney

